



Arizona Department of Public Safety **DIGEST**

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'Courteous Vigilance'

April 2005

Retired from agency in 2000 as a lieutenant

Senate confirms Vanderpool's appointment as DPS director

When Roger Vanderpool retired from the Department as a lieutenant in February 2000, returning to DPS as its director wasn't a blip on anybody's radar screen, especially his.

At the time of his retirement, his sights were set on becoming the next sheriff of Pinal County. When elected to that post in the November 2000 general election, he then directed full attention to overhauling a sheriff's office that many within Pinal County had lost confidence in.

Evidently, the voters liked the transformation that they had seen occur in the sheriff's office by overwhelmingly reelecting him last fall to a second four-year term as Pinal County sheriff.

With Gov. Janet Napolitano's appointment as the Department's next chief, Vanderpool becomes the first Arizona sheriff to serve as director of the state law enforcement agency.

"To me, being appointed as director is a fantastic honor," Vanderpool said. "I especially look forward to returning to an agency as well respected as DPS is locally and nationally. It's an honor to return and work with so many good men and women while providing law enforcement services and support throughout the state of Arizona.

"I think I bring a whole new perspective to the director's position. There's never been a sheriff who has been DPS director."

By law, Vanderpool's nomination had to be approved by the state Senate before he could begin his 5-year appointment as the Department's seventh full-time director. Vanderpool's appointment became official March 22 when the state Senate unanimously ap-

proved the governor's appointment.

With the appointment, Vanderpool, 52, replaces Dennis Garrett, who retired in early January, as director. Since Garrett's retirement, Lt. Col. David Felix has served as interim director of the agency which employs about 2,000 people, including some 1,100 officers.

Vanderpool, a Casa Grande resident, comes to the Department backed by a solid résumé in law enforcement.

He has been a law enforcement officer for more than 28 years, beginning this career as a military policeman in the U.S. Army.

Upon his honorable discharge from the Army, Vanderpool continued his law enforcement career with the Goshen, Ind., Police Department. In February 1980, he entered the DPS academy and, after graduation, he drew Kayenta as his first assignment with the Highway Patrol.

From Kayenta, he transferred to Lakeside as a Highway Patrol officer before accepting an assignment with DPS Criminal Investigations in Show Low. When promoted to sergeant in 1987, he transferred to Casa Grande where he continued to work in Criminal Investigations.

Following his promotion to lieutenant in 1994, he became the Highway Patrol's District 6 commander in Casa Grande. In 1999, he accepted a CI commander's position in Casa Grande.

He retired from DPS as commander of the Western Region Orga-



ROGER VANDERPOOL

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Felix becomes deputy director, four receive appointments

Lt. Col. David A. Felix became the Department's first deputy director in more than five years when he was elevated to that position by new DPS Director Roger Vanderpool March 28.

Felix's promotion, along with the appointments of the Department's first two female to assistant director-level positions, Georgene Ramming and Commander Pennie Gillette, were effective April 2 as were the appointments of Commander Jack Lane and Mikel Longman to assistant director-level positions.

Felix, who has served since January as the Department's interim director, was the agency's assistant director of the Criminal Justice Support Division (CJSD) for the past five years.

The deputy director's position remained vacant during Den-

nis A. Garrett's five years as DPS director. Reflecting on his five years as DPS director, Garrett said having a deputy director in place would have been the one thing he would have done differently.

With her promotion, Ramming replaces Felix as CJSD chief. Ramming had been serving as CJSD chief of staff under Felix.

Prior to her appointment as chief of the Agency Support Division, Gillette was commander of the Narcotics Enforcement Bureau in Tucson.

Lane leaves his position as the Department's legislative liaison to command the Highway Patrol Division while Longman,

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From Deputy Director

David A. Felix's

Vantage Point

Although sometimes painstaking, the selection process for DPS director works. After his appointment was unanimously approved by the state senate last month, Pinal County Sheriff Roger Vanderpool should be in place as DPS director by the time you read this *Vantage Point*.

Before addressing Sheriff Vanderpool's appointment, I would like to sincerely thank all for your unbridled patronage, patience and professionalism while I served as interim director and for the concern, encouragement and prayers I received from you during my recent convalescence from surgery. Such support was truly inspirational during the most stressful and difficult times for my wife Sharon and me.

As I have said on many occasions, our new director is well known and respected not only at DPS but throughout the state as well.

Additionally, during his four plus years as sheriff of Pinal County, he was fast becoming one of the most respected law enforcement administrators on the national level. He is a man of integrity whose dedication to duty and leadership no doubt will be fortified by his energy, focus and vision.

He comes to DPS with more than 30 years of experience in law enforcement, including 20 at the Arizona Department of Public Safety. He knows our Department well, having climbed through the ranks to lieutenant before retiring some five years ago to run for sheriff in Pinal County.

There's no question that this agency faces some tough challenges in the days to come. Issues such as officer parity, continued modernization of our communications technology, improving and increasing our fleet of patrol cars, recruitment of officers, crime lab interests, civilian employee compensation, and domestic terrorism concerns are just a few of the challenges awaiting our new director.

All these issues, plus more, will have to be confronted through a budget that is perennially tight as all state agencies, not just DPS, continue to encounter an increasing number of state-mandated responsibilities.

Our new director is very aware of these challenges and many more that affect everyday operations at DPS. With his experience and extensive background in law enforcement, there's little doubt that Roger Vanderpool is a perfect fit to lead our Department.

As Pinal County sheriff, he established himself as a leader very capable of achieving departmental goals despite restrictive obstacles. His track record indicates that the governor's choice is a right one both for the citizens of Arizona and the employees of DPS. His leadership qualities and his sincere compassion for those with whom he works should prove to be quite beneficial for DPS.

Vanderpool ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

nized Crime and Narcotics Division.

He is a graduate of the FBI national academy, the Arizona State University Public Executive Institute and the Drug Enforcement Administration's Task Force Commanders School.

He also participated in the University of Arizona's Center for Rural Leadership (Project CNTRL) program.

During his career, Vanderpool has been the recipient of many awards, including Arizona Administrators state employee of the year, American Legion police officer of the year and a Director's Commendation Award for his assistance with enhancements for the Canine Unit. He also received a U.S. Congressional commendation for his community policing programs.

The Wabash, Ind. native is a member of the National Sheriff's Association, FBI Associates and the American Legion. Additionally, Vanderpool is a board member of the Casa Grande Boys and Girls Club. A founding member of the Pinal County Peace Officers Memorial Board, Vanderpool also serves as president of the Arizona Sheriff's Association and the Pinal County Law Enforcement Association.

Last year, he served on the governor's blue-ribbon panel created to examine the state correctional system after two inmates at the Arizona State Prison-Lewis Complex held two corrections officers hostage for 15 days. This panel made 69 recommendations to improve the state's penal system.

Vanderpool was among more than 100 applicants to apply for the DPS position and was chosen from a final pool of three. The other two finalists were Manuel Padilla, a California Highway Patrol assistant chief, and Jerry Oliver, a former assistant Phoenix police chief who now serves as a law enforcement liaison for the state Attorney General's Office.

"I think Sheriff Vanderpool will be an excellent director," Napolitano told Phoenix-area media when announcing Vanderpool's appointment during a March 10 news conference. "His years of experienced leadership and extensive background in Arizona's law enforcement issues make him the perfect candidate for director."

As Pinal County sheriff, Vanderpool was praised by community leaders for increasing community involvement and finding more efficient methods to run his department.

Under his leadership, the Pinal County Sheriff's Office increased participation in Block Watch programs while establishing a volunteer posse. His department also created one of the nation's first cold-case squads run by retired homicide investigators.

He has been married to his wife, Valerie, for more than 30 years. They have a son, Chris.

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Employees are invited to submit story ideas or stories for publication. Stories or story ideas may be submitted to *The Digest* by mail, EMS or Telephone (602-223-2313).

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State reaches agreement in racial profiling lawsuit

In late February, the state and a group of civil plaintiffs agreed to settle a 2001 class-action lawsuit that claimed DPS Highway Patrol officers used racial profiling to stop and search motorists.

The proposed agreement, under review by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, would result in the dismissal of a suit filed by 11 minority motorists stopped while traveling on Interstates 17 and 40. The court's decision is expected by June with the Department having 90 days from the time of the ruling to implement many of the provisions outlined within the settlement.

Under the terms of the settlement, the plaintiffs' lawsuit will be dismissed.

While agreeing to the settlement, the Department also reaffirmed its belief that its Highway Patrol officers did not use "ethnicity to determine which motorists to stop."

"Instead of dragging this thing through court, we decided there were some things we could mutually agree upon. Although we do not admit to any wrongdoing, we did agree to take proactive measures to prevent racial profiling in the future," said Rod Covey, assistant director of the Department's Agency Support Division which, through the agreement, has the responsibility to oversee the implementation of the settlement.

"As part of this settlement, we also have agreed to maintain our present policy that the intentional practice of racial profiling is wrong and will not be tolerated," Covey stated.

Under the agreement, DPS will not pay monetary damages to the plaintiffs, but potential damage claims of other class members are not affected by the settlement, the assistant director said, adding that the state also agreed to pay nearly \$140,000 in plaintiff attorney fees.

As part of the settlement, the Department agreed to equip all patrol cars with video systems with priority given to vehicles assigned to those highways where drug transportation activities appear to be the most prevalent.

For the past few years, DPS has been in the process of installing such equipment into its patrol cars. In mid March, 217 patrol cars had in-car video camera systems. Nearly 550 patrol cars are without the systems.

"In this year's budget, we requested funding for 50 in-car video cameras," Covey said. "Each year, we will continue to request funding for at least 50 in-car video camera sys-

General Order 4.2.30 dictates that racial profiling won't be tolerated at DPS

At DPS, the issue of racially-biased policing is covered specifically by General Order 4.2.30 which dictates that the Department will not tolerate practices such as racial profiling.

The policy within the general order emphasizes the point that "racially-biased policing, involving racial profiling, is unethical and unacceptable."

The policy also maintains that "the Department will not tolerate the racial or ethnic profiling of any group and prohibits any policy, procedure, or practice that constitutes profiling any person based on race, skin color, and/or ethnicity for the purpose of traffic stops or investigations."

In addressing this issue, Rod Covey, assistant director of the Agency Support Division, emphasized that recent surveys around the country indicate that "the majority of the public believes that police officers do racially profile which is what the plaintiffs were alleging against our officers."

Covey said racial profiling is difficult if not impossible to prove.

"However, it is equally difficult to disprove, especially when considering prior to this time, we as a department did not collect any meaningful data in this area," Covey said. "While I do believe that the overwhelming majority of officers in Arizona do not knowingly engage in racial profiling, I also believe that there are some who unwittingly practice racially-biased policing."

"This is the case not only in policing but throughout our entire society and all its institutions. We do not understand the subtle, and in many cases, unconscious decisions we make every day because of our biases. These biases are not limited to race but also extend to gender, age, religion, social-economic status as well as many others. Our issue at hand, however, deals solely with race."

"It is our continued hope that this policy, as presented in our general order, and our training over the next year will heighten officer awareness about this issue and what they can do to prevent racially-based policing from occurring."

tems per the settlement agreement. The priority, according to the agreement, is to assign newly-acquired in-car video cameras to officers working in the 'drug corridor' areas of the state. The drug corridor areas include Interstates 17, 40, 8, 10 and 19, all outside the metro Phoenix area."

Although adamant that DPS officers were not racially profiling, Covey believes the use of video systems will be a valuable tool in monitoring all traffic stops.

"These video systems will provide a record of not only who is being stopped, but what happens during each stop," Covey said. "Having a video record should help exonerate officers falsely accused of any wrongdoing. Video cameras can also be a very effective tool for training officers and giving them feedback on their interaction with motorists."

Another key provision of the agreement requires the governor's office to establish a citizen's advisory board to review the Department's practices and traffic stop data.

The Citizen's Traffic Stop Advisory Board will consist of four members from the Governor's African-American and Latino Advisory Committees, three persons from at least six names forwarded by a committee convened by the plaintiffs' representative

and two persons from the public at large.

The settlement calls for the governor to appoint a chairman, but that person cannot be employed by a law enforcement agency.

"None of the board members can be from DPS and no more than two board members can be employed in law enforcement either as an officer or prosecutor," Covey explained, adding that the board will meet at least three times a year for at least the next five years.

Once the district court approves the settlement, the Department within four months will produce a video tape and ensure that all employees review this training update. Issues pertaining to racial profiling will also be incorporated into the Department's Advanced Basic Training program.

"Within one year of the effective date of the agreement, all DPS Highway Patrol officers and canine unit officers will complete a training course based on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's guidelines for professional traffic stops," Covey said.

Other key provisions in the agreement include:

- Officers can detain motorists only as

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DPS to get nation's first CVPIs with fire-suppression systems

DPS Highway Patrol officers are about to become the first law enforcement officers in the nation to receive and drive Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptors (CVPIs) equipped with electronic fire-suppression systems.

When DPS receives its first batch of the new Police Interceptors this month, it will be considered a major step in officer safety for law enforcement agencies throughout the country.

The arrival of the new CVPIs will also be significant because the fire-suppression system with which they will be equipped is considered to be the most effective, technologically-advanced fire-prevention safety feature ever added to the widely-used police vehicle, said Michael Fuson, DPS Fleet Services manager.

Numerous law enforcement agencies throughout the U.S. are on a waiting list to receive the fire-suppression equipped 2005 CVPI's and will begin receiving them after DPS' initial 100-vehicle order is filled.

Although the addition of the fire-suppression system will further reduce the risk of fire-related injuries to DPS officers who drive the popular police cruiser, Fuson said it is still just one part of a comprehensive

effort to reduce risks all officers face from high-speed, high-energy, rear-impact collisions.

According to Major Deston Coleman, chief of staff for the Highway Patrol Division at DPS, a comprehensive effort to improve the safety of the Crown Victoria patrol car began in June 2002 when Gov. Janet Napolitano, then Arizona attorney general, announced the formation of a blue ribbon panel to address the issue.

"This panel also sought to improve the

Police Department; Lt. Jim Wells, Florida Highway Patrol; and Neve Johnson, a Phoenix engineer. Representing the Ford Motor Co. was Brian Geraghty.

At the first meeting, Coleman said the committee told Ford that the committee wanted the CVPI tested for rear-end crashes at 75 mph rather than at the traditional 50 mph. The committee also told Ford that it was mandatory that all CVPIs have shielding for the fuel tank and a fire-suppression system.

"Today, we have all three and more," the DPS major said. "Because of the leadership of Gov. Napolitano and the national role DPS played, our officers are receiving the very first CVPIs with fire-suppression systems."

Coleman said the Blue Ribbon Committee has evolved into the Law Enforcement Safety and Stops Subcommittee (LESSS) of the IACP Highway Safety Committee. It is chaired by Lt. Col. Bill Reutter, assistant director of DPS' Highway Patrol Division.

Coleman, a subcommittee member, is currently working with the Ohio State Patrol, California Highway Patrol and the National Highway Transportation Administration in producing a role-call training DVD on violator stops.

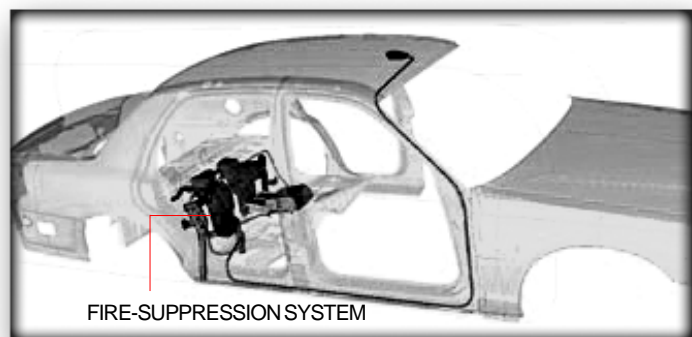
The group plans to distribute the DVD nationwide.

The officer-safety focus of the various groups extends well beyond the study of potential police vehicle improvements to include scrutiny of law enforcement policy and

The system uses advanced electronics and on-board sensors to measure post-impact vehicle movement to determine the optimal time for deployment of the fire-suppression material.

work environment of police officers while specifically addressing rear-end, fire-related crashes involving police vehicles," Coleman said.

Former DPS Director Dennis Garrett was appointed chairman of the Blue Ribbon Committee. Committee members included Coleman; Officer Jake Jacobson, Phoenix



FIRE-SUPPRESSION SYSTEM

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Make-A-Wish got its start at DPS 25 years ago

Frank Shankwitz reflects on the 'Little Bubble Gum Trooper'

When it first started, it was simply a gesture to make a wish come true for a young Scottsdale boy, Chris Greicius, who was dying from leukemia.

Few realized then that the death of the youngster in April 1980 would have such a dramatic impact on the world and that it would eventually inspire the formation of the Make-A-Wish Foundation which this month celebrates its 25th anniversary.

Since Chris' death on May 3, 1980, the Make-A-Wish Foundation has granted more than 127,000 wishes for children with life-threatening medical conditions. Today, Make-A-Wish is the largest wish-granting charity in the world, with 75 chapters across the United States and its territories and 27 international affiliates on five continents.

Most at DPS are aware of the role the agency played in developing the concept which eventually led to what the Make-A-Wish Foundation is today. Playing an instrumental role in the foundation of this modern-day story of humanity was Frank Shankwitz, a DPS officer/detective who retired from the agency in 1996 following 24 years of service.

Shankwitz's involvement in the program started a few weeks prior to Chris' peaceful death at Scottsdale Memorial Hospital.

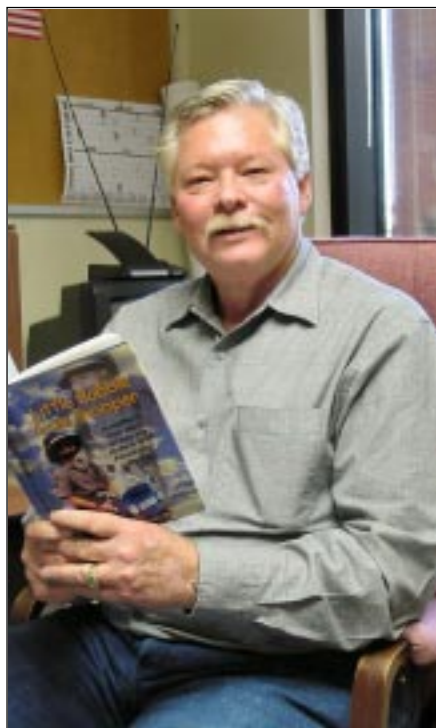
"I was a motorcycle officer when Detective Ron Cox of DPS called and said Tom Austin, a U.S. Customs agent, had befriended a little 7-year-old boy who had terminal leukemia," Shankwitz said. "Tom had learned that Chris had a wish to be a Highway Patrol motorcycle officer, just like Ponch and John on the hit TV show *CHiPS*."

"They were his heroes and he knew everything about the show. He wanted to be a motorcycle officer when he grew up."

Prior to contacting Shankwitz, who later became DPS' first officer to ride motorcycles for at least 10 years, Cox touched base with then DPS Director Ralph Milstead to arrange for a helicopter ride for the leukemia-stricken youth.

After Cox received permission to have the youngster flown from Scottsdale Memorial Hospital to DPS headquarters, he took the next step and contacted Shankwitz.

"Ron called and asked if I would stand by with my motorcycle upon Chris' arrival," Shankwitz said, adding that he and fellow DPS Motor Officer Skip Fink, who later would die in the line of duty, were known for their presentations throughout the state and the rapport they had developed with youngsters



FRANK SHANKWITZ

at many elementary schools.

The DPS Air Rescue team of Pilot Duke Moore along with Paramedics Steve Lump and Doc Holloway picked up Chris at the Scottsdale hospital and departed for DPS headquarters. Anxiously awaiting Chris' arrival were a number of DPS officers, commanders and various other employees.

"When they landed, I expected to see this very sick little boy," Shankwitz reminisced. "Instead, this bundle of energy came running out of that helicopter straight to my motorcycle yelling 'Hi. I'm Chris.' He shook my hand and asked if he could get on the motorcycle."

"He was beaming. He played with every switch, button, whatever was on that motorcycle. I asked him if he wanted to go on a motorcycle ride in the parking lot. Back then, they allowed us to do such things with children."

To Shankwitz' surprise, Chris was quite reluctant about the offer. To help calm his concerns about the motorcycle, Shankwitz reminded Chris that he had just flown in a helicopter. Chris then pointed out that unlike motorcycles, helicopters have doors.

"Doors were very important to him," Shankwitz related, adding that he was quite surprised about how quickly he and the little boy bonded.

About that time Sgt. Jim Eaves arrived in a patrol car and Chris was asked if he would like to go for a ride.

"Jim allowed Chris to sit in his lap as they cruised the parking lot," Shankwitz said. "As he was helping Jim drive around the parking lot, Chris blew this big giant bubble with the gum he was chewing. That's when we nicknamed him the 'Little Bubble Gum Trooper.'"

In 2000, Chris' mother, Linda Bergendahl-Pauling, published a book she wrote detailing her life with Chris and the emotional experiences they shared. She entitled the book "Little Bubble Gum Trooper."

Following the ride, Chris visited briefly with Milstead and Lt. Col. Dick Shafer who was chief of the Highway Patrol Bureau as it was called then.

"Col. Shafer presented Chris with a 'Smokey,' a badge and a certificate making him an honorary Arizona Highway Patrol officer, the first honorary patrolman in the Department's history," Shankwitz said.

The visit to DPS uplifted Chris' spirits so significantly that instead of returning to the hospital later that day, the doctor allowed Chris to go home.

Shankwitz and others close to the situation thought that because Chris was now a patrolman, he needed a uniform. So contact was made with John's Uniforms who arranged for two seamstresses to work through the night to make Chris an official Highway Patrol uniform.

The next day, Shankwitz and other DPS officers went to Chris' house to deliver the uniform.

"As we approached his house, we hit the lights and sirens so you can imagine what the neighborhood was thinking," Shankwitz said laughingly. "Chris came running out and we presented the uniform to him."

"You can't imagine the beam we saw on his face that morning. When he came to me, he became fascinated with my motorcycle wings. He asked how he could get some motorcycle wings. I explained to him that in order to become a motorcycle officer, he had to pass a driving test."

Shankwitz said Chris ran into the house and upon return he had a small battery-operated tricycle that his mother had purchased in place of a wheelchair. She also had purchased some rubber high-top boots and a little helmet. Dressed in his uniform, Chris looked like DPS' youngest motorcycle officer.

But, in order to become a 'motor' officer,

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SHARI
DAHLBACK



EVELYN
JABLONSKI



JEREMY
KNOLL



BERNICE
SEDILLO



JENNIFER
STADLER



ROBERT
TROUP

Turner promotes to sergeant; six civilian employees advance

An officer and six civilian employees at DPS received promotions to various positions during ceremonies Feb. 28 at state DPS headquarters in Phoenix.

Elevated to sergeant by DPS Interim Director David Felix was Brian Turner.

Civilian promotions included Shari Dahlback, from administrative secretary to administrative services officer; Evelyn Jablonski, from administrative secretary to executive assistant; Jeremy Knoll, from telecommunications technician to telecommunications supervisor; Bernice Sedillo, from criminal records specialist to financial service specialist; Jennifer Stadler, from ACJIS compliance specialist to administrative services officer; and Robert Troup, from financial services specialist to administrative assistant.

BRIAN TURNER

The Yuma native began his DPS career in 1989 as a cadet officer. After graduation from the Arizona Law Enforcement Training Academy in Tucson, Turner began a remote duty assignment with the Highway Patrol in Dateland. In 1992, he transferred to Yuma.

Five years later, he transferred into the Criminal Investigations Division and was assigned to the Southwest Border Alliance Narcotics Task Force based in Yuma. He returned to the Highway Patrol in 2002 with an assignment in the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Bureau.

With his promotion, Turner will be assigned to the Wenden/Salome area with the Highway Patrol.

During his career at DPS, he has received two Director's Unit Citations and a Meritorious Service Award.

Turner, who served four years with the U.S. Air Force, is working towards an associate's degree at Arizona Western College in Yuma.

SHARI DAHLBACK

Dahlback, a Mansfield, Ohio, native, came to DPS in 1977 as a secretary III in

Human Resources. A year later, she promoted to administrative secretary III with the Law Enforcement Merit System Council.

In 1988, she promoted to administrative assistant III and transferred into the Evidence Bureau. Dahlback left the Department in 1990, returning in 2002 as an administrative secretary assigned to the Arizona Peace Officers Standards and Training Board.

Her first assignment as an administrative services officer will be as project coordinator with the Arizona Automated Fingerprint Identification System.

Dahlback, who earned an associate's degree from Phoenix College, is taking classes at Arizona State University.

EVELYN JABLONSKI

Jablonski began her DPS career in 1997 as an office assistant in Supply. A month later, she accepted an assignment as an administrative secretary, transferring to the Facilities Management Bureau.

With her promotion to executive assistant, the Morenci native will be assigned to the Public Safety Communications Commission.

During her assignment with Facilities, Jablonski was awarded the Bureau's 1998 employee of the year award, and in 2002, she received a Director's Unit Citation.

She also has completed assignments with the Office Professional Training Committee and the Records Management Retention Committee. Additionally, she assisted with the Department's Bring Your Child to Work Day program and has provided volunteer assistance with the State Employees Charitable Campaign on two occasions.

JEREMY KNOLL

Knoll began his career at DPS in 1997 as a telecommunications trainee, promoting to telecommunications technician in 1998. With his promotion to telecommunications supervisor, the Silverton, Ida., native will remain with the Microwave Systems Unit.

Knoll, who has an associate's degree of

applied science in avionics/telecommunications, received the Department's Microwave Systems Technician of the Year Award in 1998.

BERNICE SEDILLO

Sedillo's career at DPS began in 2000 as a criminal records specialist in the Criminal History Records Unit. As a member of the Criminal History Records Unit, Sedillo received a Director's Unit Citation.

After a year with the Criminal History Records Unit, she transferred to the Applicant Team One.

With her promotion to financial service specialist, the Phoenix native will transfer to the Finance Bureau.

She also has completed courses in criminal justice and sign language at Glendale Community College.

JENNIFER STADLER

Stadler's first position at DPS came in 1999 as a secretary in the Information Technology Bureau. Two years later, she transferred into Training as a secretary. In 2002, she promoted to compliance specialist and was assigned to the Access Integrity Unit.

With her recent promotion to administrative services officer, Stadler will be assigned to Research and Planning.

The Elmhurst, Ill., native also has assisted with the Office Professionals Training Day and the Department's Bring Your Child to Work program.

Prior to DPS, she served with the U.S. Army for four years.

ROBERT TROUP

Troup arrived at DPS in 1999 as a financial services specialist assigned to the Finance Bureau. With his promotion to administrative assistant, Troup will transfer to Licensing.

Troup, who has an associate's degree in international trade, was born in St. Louis and reared in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

International group honors Communications' Debbie Henry

The Associated Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO), representing the largest network of public safety communications officials in the world, recently selected DPS' Debbie Henry for its Communications Manager of the Year for Arizona award.

A 26-year veteran employee at DPS, Henry received the honor for her supervisory role during one of the most demanding technological changes ever made involving the Department's communications centers in Phoenix, Tucson and Flagstaff.

After 35 years of hand-writing logs and incidents, dispatchers from the three communications centers at DPS began entering and dispatching calls via a computer-aided dispatch (CAD) system.

This technological improvement required months of work by several employees, but Henry, who serves as the administrative manager of DPS' Operational Communications Bureau, was the one who provided the "glue" for the project.

Over a four-year period prior to the installation of the CAD system at DPS, Henry was responsible for the planning and coordination of the project.

Her tasks included researching comparable law enforcement agencies CAD systems, DPS' exact communications needs and available federal grants for CAD funding. She also consulted with technical staff while preparing a proposal and presentation for executive staff approval. During the DPS



Manager of the year

Debbie Henry (left), administrative manager of DPS Operational Communications, accepts the Communications Manager of the Year Award for Arizona from DPS Police Communications Supervisor Celina Murrieta-Gonzales.

budgetary process, Henry created and submitted a fiscal plan pertaining to the system.

The award emphasized that "Ms. Henry definitely had a clear vision of this monumental project."

Once DPS approved the acquisition of a CAD system and the agency determined which system best suited its needs, Henry then conducted several meetings between radio supervisors, information technology personnel, technicians and the vendor.

These meetings served to coordinate an

approach as to how and when the installation of the CAD was to take place in each of the three dispatch centers. Henry then coordinated with radio training personnel and supervisors to develop a plan on how to begin training agency dispatchers in the use of the new CAD system.

After the CAD system was installed and it became time for the system to go "live", Henry was present at each communications center to support and assist dispatchers during the transition.

As it turned out, DPS dispatchers transitioned from manual mode to CAD automation better than anticipated.

"This huge undertaking could have had disastrous results with different leadership or no leadership at all," according to Henry's award. "The ease with which DPS acquired and transitioned to CAD is a wonderful example of the type of leadership and support the agency has in Ms. Henry."

Since the project began, Henry has dedicated some 800 hours to the implementation of the CAD system all while managing 12 supervisors, an administrative secretary, a training coordinator, and 100 dispatchers in Phoenix, Tucson and Flagstaff.

APCO is the world's oldest and largest professional organization dedicated to the enhancement of public safety communications. The organization serves the professional needs of its 16,000 members worldwide by creating a platform for setting professional standards and issues.

DPS patrol officers involved in five shootings within a month

In slightly less than a month, a DPS sergeant and four officers were involved in five unrelated shootings, including two that resulted in the deaths of two suspected assailants.

No DPS officers were wounded in the multiple shootings.

The first fatal shooting occurred on the afternoon of Feb. 26, when Officer Travis Palmer mortally wounded a man who investigators believe was throwing large rocks at Palmer. The second fatal shooting took place the morning of March 6 and resulted in the death of a man who investigators believe was reaching for a gun tucked in his belt when shot by a female DPS officer.

The first shooting incident occurred the afternoon of Feb. 22 following a traffic stop conducted by Sgt. John Christie who was shot at from a passing vehicle with one round narrowly missing his head. About 10 days later, Highway Patrol Officer Marty Bowlby was fired upon several times by a motorist

he was attempting to stop for speeding the morning of March 3.

The last shooting occurred March 21 when a 24-year-old man opened fire on Officer Richard Peles who was responding to a call concerning an individual with a gun on Loop 101 near Thunderbird Road.

In the fatal shooting involving Palmer, the Duty Office reported that the DPS officer was patrolling Interstate 17 near Anthem Way about 15 miles north of Phoenix when he observed a man walking in the median between the north- and south-bound lanes of the interstate.

Within minutes after first approaching the man, a confrontation developed and the man reportedly began throwing rocks at Palmer.

After the man refused to obey repeated verbal commands and after Palmer unsuccessfully deployed his Taser twice, the Duty Office said Palmer shot and mortally wounded the man who was pronounced

dead at the scene.

Following the incident, the Duty Office said Palmer was taken to a Phoenix-area hospital where he was treated and released for minor injuries suffered in the confrontation.

The Casa Grande shooting occurred after she stopped a vehicle on S.R. 387 near DPS headquarters in Casa Grande shortly before 6 a.m. After stopping the vehicle, she placed the driver under arrest based on a felony burglary warrant issued in Texas. During the stop, she also requested a back up officer. Within minutes, a second officer arrived and the two turned their attention to the passenger, Jayme Don "Jaime" Willis, 23.

For reasons unknown, DPS Media Relations Officer Frank Valenzuela said Willis became combative with the two officers. During the ensuing struggle, the Duty Office said Willis reached for a semi-automatic handgun he had tucked in his belt.

That's when he was shot by the female

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Crown Vic ...

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procedures and highway environment/design.

As a result, the new fire-suppression systems are part of a bigger safety-related picture even though they most likely will reduce the incidence of fuel tank fires in the CVPI more than any other change made to the vehicle thus far.

According to the Ford Motor Co., the fire-suppression systems are an automotive industry first and were engineered using technology initially developed and tested for use in armored U.S. military vehicles.

The crash-activated system deploys chemicals designed to suppress the spread of fire or potentially extinguish a fire, thereby providing more time for occupants to escape from a vehicle that has been rear ended. Ford says the system uses advanced electronics and on-board sensors to measure post-impact vehicle movement to determine the optimal time for deployment of the fire-suppression material.

Since the system must be integrated into the vehicle's structure and electrical architecture, it cannot be retrofitted onto prior model year CVPIs, according to Ford.

After extensive research and testing, Ford implemented a plan to begin offering the advanced system as a factory option on CVPIs, starting with the 2005 model.

Of the 100 new Crown Victorias on order at DPS, 12 should arrive this month followed by another 60 in August. The remainder will arrive in November. The first such cruisers are expected to be road ready by June.

"The exact timing depends on how fast the new vehicles can be built up and equipped with items such as police lighting, sirens, radar equipment and DPS markings," Fuson said.

New York State Police will be the second agency in the country to receive delivery of the new CVPIs.

Fuson said the fire-suppression system in the new CVPIs will be located beneath the vehicle and attached to the frame above and forward of the fuel tank and rear axle.

"The electronic control module for the system will be mounted inside the passenger compartment centered underneath the rear-seat cushion," Fuson said.

In the event of a high-speed, high-energy rear impact, Fuson said a system of crash sensors and high-speed electronic processors will deploy a pyrotechnic gas generator (similar to air bag technology), which then deploys suppressant and surfactant materials through a system of manifolds and nozzles.

"The system should deploy automatically after a high-speed, high-energy impact has occurred at the rear of the vehicle or manually when other situations require fire-suppression," Fuson said.

Ford says the system uses advanced electronics and on-board sensors to measure post-impact vehicle movement to determine the optimal time for deployment of the material.

Ford's development testing demonstrated that the optimal time for deploying the fire-suppression substance is near the point-of-rest, which can be seconds after, and more than 200 feet beyond, the initial point of impact.

The system was designed and tested to withstand a 75-mph, 50-percent offset rear impact by vehicles similar in size to a Ford Taurus. However, in some crashes, including very high-energy crashes, the fire-suppression system could be so damaged by the crash forces that it cannot deploy.

As a result, DPS officers who receive one of the new CVPIs should not consider the vehicle "fire proof" just because it is equipped with a fire-suppression system, Fuson said.

DPS' Scott Tyman to participate in police bicycle tour honoring fallen officers

For Scott Tyman, it's an honor to be asked to participate in the Police Unity Tour next month.

But, he has to raise least \$1,500 to participate in the four-day bicycle ride that was originally organized in 1997 to promote public awareness of police officers who have died in the line of duty.

"For me, it's a great honor to be part of such a great mission," said Tyman, a DPS officer assigned to ALEA. "I am paying my own travel expenses, but I am required to raise \$1,500 in donations for the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial and the National Law Enforcement Officers' Museum."

That's where fellow DPS employees can help Tyman through donations as ride sponsors for the event.

Tyman will be one of about a dozen peace officers from Arizona to participate in the event which starts at police headquarters in Livingston, N.J., before proceeding north to "Ground Zero" in New York City.

The May 9-11 event, which covers some 300 miles and coincides with Peace Officers Memorial Week, ends at the National Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial in Washington, D.C.

This year's event is expected to draw at least 300 bicyclists, but numbers may reach

"Like any vehicle component, the fire-suppression system cannot withstand all crashes," according to Ford. The web site adds that no vehicle can completely eliminate the risk of fires.

Each DPS officer who receives a new CVPI will be given an extensive briefing about the fire-suppression system prior to receiving authorization to drive the vehicle.

"Officers will learn during the briefing, among various other things, how to manually deploy the fire-suppression system if necessary," Fuson said, adding that every new cruiser DPS orders in the future will contain the fire-suppression system.

The agency plans on replacing its old patrol cars with the new CVPIs by following its traditional vehicle-replacement schedule unless the legislature allocates special funding to speed up the process.

If the traditional replacement schedule is followed, the agency should have all its front-line patrol vehicles replaced with a new CVPIs within seven years.

The Department's current 100-vehicle order will replace about 9 percent of the agency's existing front-line Police Interceptors.

as many as last year's 500 plus participants.

Since its inception 8 years ago, the Tour has raised some \$1.5 million for the National Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial.

Those wishing to contribute may internally e-mail Tyman at badge number 4200, or external e-mail him at scott.m.tyman@phoenix.gov. His phone contact is 602-495-0603.

DPS detectives seize 3,335 pounds of pot

Officers assigned to Southern Narcotics in Tucson seized 3,335 pounds of marijuana during the service of a search warrant Feb. 16 at a residence in northwest Tucson.

The marijuana, according to DPS Detective Jim Oien, has a street value of about \$2 million.

Oien said officers also seized ledgers, packaging paraphernalia, scales and other items needed to process the contraband.

"There was little furniture in the rented house and it didn't seem to be lived in," Oien told Tucson media.

Oien said the landlord wasn't aware that his property was being used as a stash house. No arrests were made.



Officer Watlington says he did only what all other DPS officers would have done

While on routine patrol one evening last summer in the Quartzsite-area, DPS Highway Patrol Officer John Watlington received a report about a distraught woman walking along the shoulder of I-10.

The woman was said to have pieces of rope dangling from her wrist.

Watlington, a 3-year officer, responded to the call with a sense of urgency, realizing the woman may have been the victim of a sexual assault or attack.

When Watlington approached milepost 12 on the interstate, he spotted the distressed woman walking near the median. As he approached her, he discovered that she was crying hysterically.

When Watlington asked the woman what was wrong, she told him she had just been thrown from a vehicle by three men who had abducted her outside of a convenience store near the California-Arizona border.

She told Watlington that she was return-

ing to her vehicle after purchasing a few items at a store when three males attacked her and began violently punching her. She said the men then shoved her into the back of her vehicle before driving away. Judging from the woman's injuries and condition, Watlington believed the woman's story.

Watlington, assigned to the Quartzsite-area since joining DPS in 2001, proceeded to learn that one of her abductors had bound her wrists and ankles with cloth material and string. After tying the woman up, another abductor sat on her to keep her still while the others told her they wanted all of her money.

She was not carrying any cash, however, and told the men she would withdraw money for them if they drove her to a bank.

Likely confused about what to do, the suspects drove east along I-10 into Arizona. When they approached milepost 12, the suspects pulled onto the shoulder and threw the woman from the vehicle and she tumbled down a steep embankment. The woman was able to free herself from her bindings and climb the embankment to the shoulder of the interstate.

Terrified, alone and wondering who to trust, the woman began to walk, searching for help. As she began to seriously fear her own death, she saw Watlington approaching in his patrol car.

The mother of two viewed Watlington's calm, comforting, and protective treatment of her on that horrible night as one of the most profound, reassuring experiences of her life.

To express her thanks, the woman recently wrote a flowing, heartfelt letter, one of the more poignant letters an officer at DPS has received from a victim of crime.

Watlington said he was very moved by the woman's letter which he received a few months after the attack. He also said he is very appreciative of the woman's gratefulness. However, he said any DPS officer would have treated the woman exactly the way he did that night.

"I really feel as if I did nothing special that night," Watlington said. "I was just doing my job and happened to be the person on duty when that call came. I mainly tried to reassure the woman that everything was going to be all right and that she was safe."

Unfortunately, those who abducted and severely beat the woman that night remain at large.

Woman says Officer Watlington not only helped her, but her two children as well

Dear Officer (John) Watlington:

I'm not sure where to begin. On June 19, I was the person you found walking on the side of the highway after going through a violent/traumatic experience that night. To just say thank you isn't close to how I feel about you finding me.

See, when I untied myself and climbed back up to the road, I simply started walking. I know now I was beginning to feel the shock of what had just happened. Then it occurred to me I had to figure out the direction I was going.

While walking, I saw you coming so I tried to get your attention as you passed. I yelled so hard, and I was so mad at you, thinking you had not seen me. That is exactly what I thought at the time before realizing that those lights were a form of hope.

I felt in my heart either you would be back or someone else would find me out there. The last thing I remember that isn't blurry is seeing the lights on your car.

I remember everything from the attack. It is after the point that you found me everything is hard to remember.

As you pulled to the side of the road, all I could think about was that I was no longer alone. You were very kind to me and I thank you. I remember you took me somewhere to answer questions about what happened. It was then that I remember seeing your name badge.

It's very important to let you know what you meant to me that night. I will always

remember you finding me and the kindness you showed. I will always think about you - hoping everything is always going good for you. In addition, I will always talk about how you found me that night to my kids and how grateful I am.

I remember feeling safe when you found me, the same feeling I used to have and still do for my uncle who is also a police officer, a third generation of officers. I look up to him and respect what he deals with each day at his job. In my eyes being a police officer is one of the hardest careers there is.

Even though I can't remember much about you, you gave me the opportunity to still be able to hold, and cuddle, and kiss my children. They will always hear about the officer who was there to help me. You not only helped me, but you helped two children from losing their mom. I know the pain of not having a mother growing up because my mother died when I was 5. That was a main reason why I didn't give up that night. I knew how alone I felt as a child and I didn't want my children to experience anything like I did.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you so much. I can never repay you for what you did that night. I wanted to write sooner, but I hadn't reached the point where I could. When I think about the attack I cry a lot.

All my love to you and yours. I will always remember.

Sincerely,
Name withheld

Strong combined solid work ethic with hearty sense of humor

David Strong, whose masterful aptitude to diagnose and fix unexpected problems with DPS' radio system rivaled his ability to pull clever pranks on co-workers, retired Jan. 28 after some 31 years of service with the Department.

Strong, who never missed an opportunity to put a fake oil puddle under a fellow employee's car or motorcycle, began his career with DPS in November 1973 as a radio mechanic. In August 1977, Strong promoted to communications technician where he specialized in providing technical support to all radio consoles within the Department's Operational Communications Center in Phoenix.

In addition, Strong also maintained radar equipment, designed and built radar tuning fork calibration testing systems, and modified the state's "dust warning system" to eliminate improperly decoded displays.

In December 1987, Strong transferred into the Microwave Systems Unit at DPS where he remained until his retirement.

During his many years with the Microwave Systems Unit, Strong was subject to many after-hour call outs and additional requests to provide technical support to the agency's radio consoles.

He also became proficient in maintaining and modifying BOS boards, Larse units and various other circuits that he designed and built himself at significant cost savings to the Department.

Strong, whose wife Belinda retired from DPS last year, received a Director's Unit Citation in 1985 as a member of the Telecommunications Bureau's Central Area Technicians Unit.

Strong also received several letters of commendation during his career at DPS for his exemplary service and professionalism, including a letter of thanks from the Gila County Attorney's Office for his expert testimony at a radar speeding trial.

In retirement, Strong said he will have much more time to enjoy his various hobbies which include motorcycle riding, working on his house, target shooting, and electronics.

Strong, born in Richland, Wash., and reared near Los Angeles, initially applied for the radio mechanic job at DPS in 1973 while completing tech school.

His father, who worked in DPS' Crime Laboratory at the time, encouraged him to apply.

"When my father first started guiding me towards a possible career at DPS, I really liked what the agency had to offer," said

Strong. "The agency seemed to offer great job security, plenty of vacation time, a good retirement plan, and I wouldn't have to wear a white shirt and tie to work every day."

From the moment he was hired, Strong said he had no regrets about his choice to work for DPS.

"Some of the best people I have ever met in my life are employed at DPS and it was a real honor to have worked along side them," said Strong, adding that he was very humbled by a "massive" retirement party his co-workers organized for him in late January.

"I would like to thank the many, many people who came to that retirement gathering," Strong said. "I felt very loved that day due to all of the nice things that people said about me. In fact, the last time I heard that many kind words said about someone was at my 'funeral.' You can quote me on that. The retirement party was truly an amazing, humbling experience for me."

Strong's light-hearted funeral remark is in reference to a head-on crash he was involved some 30 years ago. Almost every bone in his body was broken and very few expected him to survive, much less return to work. About a year later he returned to his job at DPS.

"They do good body work at St. Joseph's," Strong joked about his many sur-

Lt. Col. David Felix has kidney removed

DPS Deputy Director David Felix underwent surgery to remove his right kidney March 18 at a Scottsdale hospital.

Felix was hospitalized March 14 with severe abdominal pain. Tests revealed a golf ball-sized mass on his right kidney. Felix's doctors said the surgery was successful.

Felix is scheduled to return to work in either late April or early May.



31 years and retiring

Dave Strong (standing) recently completed 31 years of service with the Department. Attending a retirement gathering in his honor were his parents Jack and Elaine Strong.

geries following the 1974 crash on the Bee-line Highway.

Lt. Colonel David A. Felix, DPS interim director, was one of those who had a chance to address Strong and thank him for his dedicated service to the agency and the citizens of Arizona.

"Throughout your career, you have not only dedicated yourself to accomplishing the tasks assigned to you, but you have conducted yourself with dignity and professionalism and touched many people's hearts in the process," Felix said.

Sullivan, Davis top promotional lists

Following recent testing, promotional eligibility lists were established by the Law Enforcement Merit System Council for Fingerprint Technician and ACJIS Compliance Specialist/Instructor classifications.

Topping the Fingerprint Technician list was Rhonda Sullivan followed by Yolanda Rivera and Juanita C. Buterbaugh. Olivia Verduzco and Beatrice Gutierrez tied for fourth on the list with Christina Hernandez next.

In qualifying order on the ACJIS Compliance Specialist/Instruction list are Marilyn Davis, Gennie Contreras, Vicki Watkins and Carol Cardinale.



Shankwitz ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Shankwitz explained to Chris that he must first pass a driving test.

"Using traffic cones, we set up a course for Chris and his little 'motorcycle,'" Shankwitz said. "He navigated through the cones and earned his wings."

After Chris' brief radio conversation with DPS Senior Dispatcher Mary Jane Fischer which was heard statewide by all DPS officers, Shankwitz and his friends departed.

Shankwitz then began making arrangements to have a set of motorcycle wings made for Chris. He also called NBC and the "CHiPS" production company to see if autographed pictures of Ponch and John could be sent.

"A few days later, the autographed pictures arrived and I picked up the motorcycle wings," Shankwitz said. "While heading for his house, I received information that Chris was back in the hospital, in a coma, and probably would not survive the day."

Shankwitz then headed for the hospital. Upon entering Chris' room, he noticed the little tan uniform hanging beside the Little Bubble-Gum Trooper's bed.

"Just as I pinned the motorcycle wings on his uniform, like a miracle, he came out of his coma," Shankwitz said. "The first thing he focused on were the wings on his uniform. He just smiled, then started giggling."

Then Chris asked his motorcycle buddy a question.

"Am I an official motorcycle officer now?"

Shankwitz assured him he was.

With Chris laughing and his mother ecstatic, Shankwitz left the hospital room.

Chris died that night.

Shankwitz and fellow Motorcycle Officer Scott Stahl were invited to attend Chris' funeral in Kewanee, Ill.

Fund raisers were conducted at the Department to help defray expenses for the two officers to attend the funeral. City, county and state law enforcement agencies in Illi-

nois treated Shankwitz and Stahl as royalty, even providing them with motorcycles to ride while escorting the funeral procession.

Chris was buried in his uniform, with a black band adorning his badge. His tombstone read "Chris Greicius, Arizona Trooper."

The idea of Make-A-Wish was born a few short hours after Chris' funeral.

"Scott and I were flying back to Phoenix from Chicago when I thought if we could do this for Chris, why can't this be done for other children?"

After his return, Shankwitz talked to several people and the idea to start a foundation surfaced.

"It became apparent that we needed to start a foundation and let a child make a wish, then make it happen," the DPS motor officer related. "That's how we came up with the foundation's name of 'Make-A-Wish,'" Shankwitz said.

Gaining accreditation as a tax-exempt foundation at times proved to be quite frustrating, but eventually it came into existence with Shankwitz serving as its first president.

Other original foundation officers included Stahl, vice president; Kathy McMorris, wife of then DPS Sgt. Jim McMorris, secretary treasurer; Bergendahl-Pauling, Wish Child liaison; and DPS Sgt. Allan Schmidt, public relations.

By March 1981, the Make-A-Wish group had raised enough money to grant its first official wish, making arrangements for Frank "Bopsy" Salazar to become a Phoenix firefighter.

Within a few years, it became apparent that Make-A-Wish was going to grow and that full-time professional people would be needed. Slowly, the foundation moved into the hands of dedicated and experienced professionals who eventually turned Shankwitz's vision into today's international organization.

"When we first met, I told everybody who would listen that I sincerely believed someday that Make-A-Wish would be recognized nationally and internationally and would grant wishes throughout the world," Shankwitz reminisced. "Everybody laughed, except Kitty who was very active in supporting our group."

Three years later, Kitty "made my wish come true by marrying me."

Since Chris, Shankwitz said the Make-A-Wish Foundation has granted wishes from tennis shoes to a trip to the summer Olympics in Australia.

It all started with Chris Greicius who received a set of motorcycle wings, the wings that Shankwitz says helped carry the "Little Bubble Gum Trooper" into heaven and helped thousands of other wishes come true.

Make-A-Wish plans several events for 25th anniversary

As the Make-a-Wish Foundation of Arizona enters its silver anniversary, several events are planned for the upcoming months.

"As these events unfold, we are hopeful that many at DPS will take the opportunity to participate in these anniversary festivities," said DPS Sgt. Faith Morgan, who supervises Media relations at the Department.

The anniversary calendar of events kicks off April 23 in Prescott with a 5K or one-mile family walk.

Leashed pets, strollers, skateboards and skates are welcomed, Morgan said.

"Any one raising \$75 or more in pledges receives a commemorative 25th anniversary event t-shirt," Morgan said.

More information about this event can be found at www.wishaz.org.

The next event is the the 25th Anniversary Wish Ball May 21.

The "Memories" theme event will take place at the Phoenician Resort and features a dance contest, cocktails, live entertainment, silent and live auctions, dinner and dancing. The event is sponsored by Health Net of Arizona. Tickets, \$250 per person. A VIP reception for 25th anniversary committee members also is planned.

On Sept. 28, a Pep Rally New Year Celebration is planned with the site and activities to be announced later.

In November, the Make-A-Wish Golf Classic is scheduled. It will be held on a Sunday and Monday on a date and a course to be announced later. This event will include a dinner along with silent and live auctions.

Tickets are \$95 per person, however, tournament play not necessary to attend Sunday's social event.

The scramble-format tournament will be Monday. Monday's events include a scramble golf tournament with an 8 a.m. shotgun start, breakfast, contests and an awards luncheon.

The 25th Anniversary Reunion Holiday Party is tentatively set for Dec. 11 at the Glendale Arena.

"This event will conclude our 25th anniversary year," Morgan said.

"The holiday party will reunite past and present wish families, volunteers and supporters and will feature a re-creation of the wish that inspired the foundation.

"Santa will have a toy for every wish child and siblings and there will be plenty of activities for the children."

Shootings ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

officer. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

The *Casa Grande Dispatch*, an area daily newspaper, reported that Willis had an extensive criminal history in Pinal County but was not wanted at the time of the shooting.

In the first of the five incidents, the Duty Office reported Christie had stopped a motorist on east bound I-10 near Chandler for a HOV violation. After Christie exited his vehicle and was approaching the violator vehicle, he heard two gun shots coming from a red Chevrolet pickup truck that was passing.

Someone in the pickup then fired two more rounds at the DPS sergeant, but neither Christie nor the violator were struck, according to the Duty Office.

Despite an intensive search following the shooting, the pickup truck nor its driver were located, the Duty Office reported.

The shooting involving Bowlby resulted in a rolling gun battle before the suspect was apprehended some 80 miles later.

The incident began at about 8 a.m. when Bowlby stopped the suspect's east-bound

vehicle for speeding on I-10 near Willcox.

Valenzuela said when Bowlby approached the 2001 Nissan sedan, the driver fired an AK-47 at him. The shot missed and the driver fled, traveling west after driving across the I-10 median. About 15 miles later, he then turned south on S.R. 191 and headed for Douglas at speeds approaching 100 mph.

With Bowlby in pursuit and other officers responding, the man continued to fire the semi-automatic weapon at Bowlby from outside the driver's side window.

About five miles south of I-10 on S.R. 191, DPS Sgt. Dane Sanders unsuccessfully engaged the suspect with his shotgun. A few miles later, a Cochise County sheriff's deputy fired a round from his shotgun at the fleeing motorist.

A roadblock was established by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents about 11 miles north of Douglas, allowing pursuing officers to back off and wait. The Nissan barreled into one of the patrol vehicles blocking the roadway. After the car struck the ICE vehicle and left the road before coming to a stop, officers at the roadblock opened fire, hitting the suspect at least three times, Valenzuela said.

The 22-year-old Phoenix man was airlifted by DPS helicopter to University Medical Center in Tucson for treatment of non life-threatening wounds.

Other DPS personnel involved in the pursuit/firefight included District 9 Lt. Steve Roethle along with Officers Ben Buller and Matthew Henschke.

In the final shooting, Peles was dispatched to the area of Thunderbird Road and the 101 in the northwest valley to investigate a report about a subject with a gun.

The Duty Office said Peles found the man crouched under a tree. As Peles approached in his patrol car, the man aimed a weapon and fired two rounds before fleeing into a drainage canal.

Peles continued to approach the suspect his patrol car. After closing in on the suspect, the DPS officer exited his patrol car and issued a variety of verbal commands which was met by a volley of shots.

The suspect, according to the Duty Office, then fled further up the drainage canal with Peles following in his cruiser. A short time later, Peles issued another series of verbal commands. This time the suspect responded by dropping the weapon and surrendering.

There's much more information than General Orders on CD

About two years ago, DPS launched an innovative project designed to reduce the agency's printing costs while making it easier for employees to access important agency information via computers.

The bulk of the project centered around placing all of DPS' General Orders on computer-readable CDs and having updated versions of the CDs distributed to agency employees every three months.

So far, the project appears to be going very well, especially because it has streamlined the flow of important information to employees and has been saving the agency tons of money, paper, and ink.

In addition to General Orders, the "Reference Materials" CDs as they are called at DPS now contain a wealth of other agency materials employees can use on a daily basis.

Among the additional materials now contained on the CDs are important and timely law bulletins, information bulletins, manuals, forms, agency news, and specialized policy information such as the Highway Patrol Division Orders and the

Administrative Rules of the Law Enforcement Merit System Council.

Even though a wealth of DPS information is already contained on each "Reference Materials" CD, the current capacity of the CDs can still be doubled.

"Only 48 percent of the memory available on each CD is currently in use," said Bonnie Crow, DPS' Forms Management Coordinator. "Because of the significant space still available on the medium, the CDs still haven't realized their full potential at DPS. Plenty of new items can be added to CDs as we progress farther into the digital age."

A very recent addition to the CD that was not originally contained on the medium are digitized versions of the agency's Focus videos.

Future plans are in the works to place the agency's monthly printed news medium, *The Digest*, onto the CDs as well.

Because an updated version of the "Reference Materials" CD is issued to agency employees every three months, one of the most important features on the CD is

the "What's New" section.

By loading the CD and clicking on the "What's New" section, employees gain immediate access to any information that has been revised or added to the CD since the last version was produced.

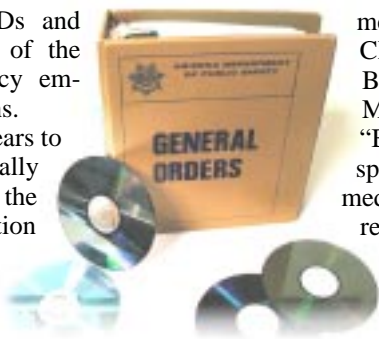
"Because new or revised information is often timely and critical in nature, employees should make sure they utilize the 'What's New' feature each time they obtain a new CD," Crow said.

So far, Crow said the only real concern with issuing a new CD to agency employees frequently has been that some employees mistakenly think they have to keep and safeguard all old versions of the CD.

Crow said employees only need to keep the most current version of the "Reference Materials" CD and that all others can be destroyed.

Employees can destroy their old CDs by physically breaking them in half or scratching them so they can no longer be read by a computer. Once the old CDs are disabled, they should be tossed in the trash.

"Employees who do not want to destroy old CDs on their own can have them returned to the DPS Mail Room in Phoenix where they will be placed into a special CD destruction machine," Crow said.



The War on Drugs

In the end, it truly was a rotten day for this drug-running suspect who thought he could out run the law.

Canine Officer Robert Telles told the Duty Office that he stopped a late-model vehicle for a traffic violation March 16 on I-10 near Marana. During the stop, the suspect ran for freedom leaving behind 20 pounds of meth. His dash ended less than a mile later when he was apprehended by DPS Officers John Armstrong and Heriberto Manjares.

Back at the car, Telles found the meth in a hidden compartment. Telles impounded a 2002 sedan and \$755 in cash.

For this suspect, the skeletons in his closet consisted of methamphetamine, cocaine, heroin and cash.

DPS Detective Chuck Herrera told the Duty Office that the Phoenix HIDTA Narcotics Task Force served a search warrant at this west Phoenix residence March 12 and found 22 pounds of methamphetamine, 1.5 pounds of cocaine and 18 ounces of heroin. Street value of the drugs was estimated at \$250,000, Herrera said.

The contraband was hidden under a false floor within a closet and within the house's air duct system, Herrera said, adding that one person was arrested.

Detectives assigned to Yuma Narcotics assisted Yuma Vehicle Interdiction and ICE in locating and "escorting" a load vehicle to its destination in El Centro, Calif.

Then they turned into rather rude guests for several suspected area drug traffickers.

After contact was made with the Imperial County Narcotics Task Force in El Centro, DPS Detective Miguel Castillo said a search warrant was obtained and served, resulting in the seizure of 462 pounds of marijuana and \$2,000 in U.S. currency.

During the March 15 drug bust, the officers also recovered a stolen pickup truck. Three suspects were arrested.

At the request of DPS narcotics detectives and ICE agents, Highway Patrol Officer David Romero and William Altwegg attempted to stop a load vehicle March 13 on I-10 about 20 miles east of Tucson.

What ensued was a pursuit that ended when the suspect's vehicle exited the interstate at Rita Road near Tucson and came to an abrupt halt in the desert. After the vehicle came to a stop, the driver and passenger fled leaving behind some 600 pounds of

marijuana.

Although a search of the area was conducted, neither suspect was located.

Detectives assigned to the Pima County Narcotics Alliance were called to assist the Tucson Police Department with a drug-related shooting March 13.

DPS Sgt. Mark Morlock said a search warrant executed on two residences related to the shooting resulted in the seizure of 20 kilos of cocaine, \$10,840 in suspected drug currency, one vehicle and a SKS assault rifle.

The suspects were taken to a Tucson hospital for treatment of their wounds.

Three days earlier, Morlock said CNA detectives served a search warrant on another Tucson residence and came up with 444 pounds of marijuana and a semi-automatic handgun. One suspect was arrested in that investigation.

A March 9 traffic stop on I-40 near Sanders ended in the arrest of two subjects on drug-related charges.

DPS Highway Patrol Officer Joseph Campbell said he stopped the vehicle for an equipment violation. During the stop, Campbell searched the vehicle and found 6.5 pounds of methamphetamine.

He also impounded the suspect's 1999 Lincoln.

Joseph Lapre may not have arrested the driver, but he did come up with 680 pounds of marijuana following a pursuit March 8 on I-10 near Quartzsite.

The Highway Patrol officer told the Duty Office that a 2005 SUV fled into the desert as the driver tried to evade the traffic stop. Eventually, the SUV came to rest in a wash. The driver was able to successfully abandon the vehicle before Lapre arrived. Inside the vehicle, Lapre found the marijuana.

Money may not grow on trees, but in the world of narcotics it sometimes comes in shoe boxes.

After Sgt. Charlie Serino Jr. stopped a vehicle for excessive tint on I-19 near Amado March 7, he asked and received consent to search. Inside the vehicle, he found two shoe boxes filled with cash.

The driver disclaimed ownership, forfeiting the right to nearly \$200,000.

Working with Tempe police officers and DEA agents, detectives assigned to the Phoenix HIDTA Task Force seized six pounds of methamphetamine during a March 7 buy/bust undercover operation.

DPS Sgt. Greg Zatcoff said that after the buy/bust which produced six pounds of

methamphetamine, officers served separate search warrants at two different Phoenix residences which resulted in the seizure of another 13 pounds of meth, \$40,000 in currency and two weapons.

Four suspects were arrested.

Although the pursuit had been terminated, the driver continued to cruise at a high rate of speed before his vehicle slammed into two other cars at an intersection within the Benson town limits.

After the collision, the suspect fled on foot only to be apprehended a short time later by Benson police with assistance from the Department's Tucson-based helicopter.

DPS Highway Patrol Officer Gregory Swalander told the Duty Office that when he attempted to stop the vehicle for a speeding violation, the driver accelerated. At one point in the Feb. 28 pursuit on I-10, pursuit speeds topped 115 mph.

During inventory of the suspect's wrecked vehicle, officers found 403 pounds of marijuana.

No one was seriously injured in the high-speed collision.

An earlier pursuit that day near Tombstone, some 30 miles south of Benson, resulted in the discovery of another 409 pounds of marijuana.

During this chase, DPS Officer Jeffrey Richardson said the suspects tossed bundles of marijuana out the window of their 2004 SUV. Their escape attempt, however, was thwarted when other ICE agents along with Border Patrol personnel were able to successfully deploy stop sticks.

Two juveniles were arrested on narcotics charges after officers found 409 pounds of marijuana inside the SUV.

Richardson told the Duty Office that the bundles of marijuana thrown from the SUV were recovered.

DPS Officer Jon Olney arrested one suspect for narcotics violations following a Feb. 25 traffic stop on I-40 near Kingman.

Olney said other DPS officers and detectives assigned to MAGNET helped him during the seizure of 50 kilos of cocaine, a 2005 Ford 4-door and \$1,150 in currency.

Although he wasn't working narcotics, DPS Detective Kris Matthews of the Vehicle Theft Task Force ended up in a pursuit March 2 which resulted in the seizure of 300 pounds of marijuana.

The bust concluded an incident that involved three vehicles, each carrying a substantial amount of marijuana.

Matthews told the Duty Office that the

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Inside DPS

25 YEARS OF SERVICE

Hough, J.D., 2689, Sergeant

Patterson, Sandy, 2698, Administrative Assistant

20 YEARS OF SERVICE

Barnett, Vicki M., 3557, Administrative Services Officer

NEW EMPLOYEES

Adams, Kimberly, 6501, Security Officer

Enrico, Shaun M., 6497, Cadet Officer

Falcone, Anthony J., 6502, Officer

Kramer, Christine A., 6498, Budget Analyst Supervisor

Murphy, Helen, 6477, Custodian

Pucko, Louis V., 6499, Officer

Vacketta, Ore H., 6496, Lab Technician

BIRTHS

Sebastian Paul Slechta Rodriguez – 7 lbs., 5 oz. 18½ inches. Born Jan. 4 at Tucson Medical Center to Karin and Anthony Rodriguez. Karin is a dispatcher assigned to the Southern Communications Center. Sebastian's grandfather is DPS Sgt. Ed Slechta who is assigned to the Highway Patrol in Tucson.

Jaycee Aaron Galvez - 7 lbs., 4 oz., 19½ inches. Born Jan. 14 at Banner Desert Hospital to Officer Manuel Galvez and wife Gina. Manuel is a Highway Patrol officer assigned to Metro East. Jaycee's grandfather is Sgt. Jaime Escobedo who is assigned to Gila County Task Force, Payson.

Christopher Michael Karloff – 6lbs., 10 oz., 18 3/4 inches – and Kaley Lynn Karloff – 5lbs., 12 oz., 19 1/4 inches. Born Feb. 9 at Good Samaritan Hospital, Phoenix, to Stephanie Karaloff and husband Pat. Stephanie is a Human Resources Analyst with the Human Resources Bureau.

Mitchell B. McMains – 8 lbs., 2 oz., 21 inches. Born Feb. 17 at Chandler Regional Medical Center to Officer Dean McMains and wife Stacy. Dean is a Highway Patrol officer assigned to D-6 Casa Grande.

Mark Edward Johnson – 6 lbs., 14 oz., 18 inches. Born Feb. 22 at Good Samaritan Hospital to Officers Philip and Marcia Johnson. Both are Highway Patrol officers assigned to HP Metro West.

Michael Anthony Fimbres – 7 lbs., 6 oz., 18½ inches. Born Feb. 23 at Northwest Hospital, Tucson, to Joe Fimbres and wife Christine. Joey is a criminalist assigned to the Southern Regional Crime Lab, Tucson. Michael's grandfather is DPS Detective Jose M. Fimbres who is assigned to the Vehicle Theft Task Force.

Kate Elizabeth Grzybowski – 6 lbs., 3 oz., 19½ inches. Born Feb. 25 at Banner Thunderbird Hospital, Glendale, to Phoenix Dispatcher Jennifer Grzybowski and Phoenix DPS Motor Officer Mike Grzybowski.

Haley Marie Anderson – 8 lbs., 3 oz., 20½ inches. Born March 17 at Flagstaff Medical Center to Officer James Anderson and wife, Leanna. James is assigned to the Highway Patrol, D-2, Flagstaff.

OBITUARIES

Arnold C. Borquez, 80, of Phoenix, passed away March 9. He was the father of Sgt. Pete Borquez who is assigned to Tactical Operations, Phoenix.

Betty Cameron, 69, of Phoenix, passed away March 9 in Phoenix. She was the mother of Bill Dimas, an administrative services officer with Facilities.

Jose N. Ruiz, 91, of Somerton, passed away March 9 at Yuma Regional Medical Center. He was the father of Officer Oly Ruiz, a paramedic assigned to Northern Air Rescue, Flagstaff.

COP SWAP

For Sale: Galco Ankle Glove holster for Sig. 380. New condition (worn once). \$30. Call Dave Denlinger at 602-223-2107.

Drug wars ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

incident began to unfold near Willcox on I-10 when the drivers of two vehicles traveling in tandem at high speed failed to yield when the officer activated his emergency lights.

Eventually, the driver of the second vehicle drove onto a side road, stopped and fled on foot, abandoning a substantial amount of marijuana.

Information was later developed about a third vehicle that was abandoned near Texas Canyon.

With assistance from a Holbrook police canine, DPS Highway Patrol Officer Joseph Campbell took five pounds of methamphetamine off the market during an I-40 traffic stop Feb. 23 about 15 miles east of Holbrook.

After observing indicators of drug trafficking, Campbell said he summoned the services of Cessie, a Holbrook PD canine. Cessie alerted to the wheel well inside the 1991 SUV. During the arrest, Campbell seized the SUV and \$200 in cash.

An investigation conducted by detectives assigned to Pinal Narcotics, Phoenix Narcotics and Phoenix HIDTA dismantled a major marijuana organization operating on the Tohono O'Odham Reservation and in Phoenix.

On Feb. 23-24, officers served search warrants at two Phoenix residences. The warrants resulted in the arrest of four suspects and the confiscation of 937 pounds of marijuana, a DPS spokesperson said. Officers also seized \$9,000 in cash, two handguns, a shotgun, four assault rifles and four vehicles.

Also participating in the bust were personnel from Aviation, the Canine District, Highway Patrol, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Phoenix PD and the Special Operations Unit.

A Feb. 21 traffic stop of a tractor-trailer rig turned into a quite productive inspection for DPS Highway Patrol Officers Mike Dickinson and Daryll Lewis.

Dickinson told the Duty Office that he stopped the commercial truck for an equipment violation on I-10 in the southeast valley. While inspecting the vehicle, Dickinson and Willis found and seized 20 packages of cocaine, totaling 50 pounds, underneath some cardboard boxes in the sleeper area of the truck.

Letters

Dear Director Felix:

I thank your officers for their support and efforts for those of us who have needed your help. Yes, I was one who received support and I greatly appreciate it. I ran out of gas and didn't make it off the freeway until one of your officers stopped and helped.

You often don't get enough thanks and appreciation for the work you do. You're out there every day, and it's possible that the ones whom you actually help are harried, unappreciative or down right ornery. You need to know for every ornery one of us, there are probably 12 appreciative people who smile when they pass you.

You are great people and I appreciate all of the efforts of DPS, including the DUI task forces, Freeway Service and the patrols that cruise our interstates. Please take a smile from me out there with you today.

Tama Stover-McBride, Scottsdale

Dear Director Felix:

Allow me to commend Officer Michael Karas for the quality of his performance.

On Feb. 16, my wife and I were returning to Phoenix from an overnight stay at the Grand Canyon. Around noon, we were driving south on U.S. 180. About 20 miles north of Flagstaff, we stopped to take a picture of the 8,046 elevation sign. To allow the car behind me to pass, I drove further to the right than I should have and got stuck in snow and mud.

A short time later, Officer Karas arrived. He was everything I could have hoped for: cordial, courteous, knowledgeable and efficient. He set up a safety warning sign while I attached his tow strap to my son's Toyota Camry. Then Karas returned, briefed me on the procedure we would use, instructed me on how to handle the car, and pulled me back onto the highway.

With a cheerful warning to "be careful where you park," he picked up his safety sign and was off. The transaction took less than 10 minutes.

If ever I get into roadside trouble again, I want my relief to be like Officer Karas. And, if all your force is as good as he is, law enforcement and safety on Arizona's highways are in fine hands.

Russell Brown, Grovetown, GA

Dear Lt. (Ron) DeLong:

On Jan. 9, my co-driver and I were involved in a head-on collision, south of Wickenburg on U.S. 93.

I drive for Yellow Freight and was driving at the time of the accident. The man I run with was in the sleeper-birth. While I have returned to work, my co-driver is recovering from a shoulder injury.

My reason for writing is to thank you and your officers. It was cold, dark and raining, but I never once heard a word of complaint or even a comment other than concern for the helicopter pilots and whether they could take off and reach the area. I had little to do but observe what was happening and the professionalism of your people was obvious from the start.

- DPS will randomly check data from traffic stops for indications of possible racial profiling by officers.

- Any indications of racial profiling by officers will be investigated by the Department.

- A link will be developed for the Department's web site providing information regarding the agency's racial profiling policy and complaints process.

- DPS will print and distribute a brochure on racial profiling.

New command ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

who retired as a lieutenant from DPS in June 2002 to become executive director of Arizona Auto Theft Authority, was Vanderpool's choice to run the Criminal Investigations Division.

In next month's issue, the *Digest* will feature a more in-depth look into these changes and others being considered by Vanderpool

I specifically commend Officer Brendan Page. As I was only able to exit our vehicle with my log book and nothing else (no coat or hat). Officer Page lent me his coat and allowed my co-driver and myself to sit in his cruiser.

I have read that in crisis situations calm, cool professional attitudes make all the difference. By the actions of Officer Page and the rest of your team, I am now a believer.

Dennis Stoke, Tijeras, NM

Who Is He?



During his 20 plus years as an officer with the Department, he was considered by many to be a man with a statuesque persona, complete with a touch of tenderness.

Correctly identify this retiree and you will be eligible to win a DPS polo shirt courtesy of the Associated Highway Patrolmen of Arizona (AHPA).

Interdepartmental e-mail entries should be addressed to Art Coughanour, badge number 3131.

Internet entries should be sent to acoughanour@azdps.gov.

Interdepartmental mail should go to *The Digest*, P.O. Box 6638, Phoenix, AZ 85005.

February contest

There were 30 employees who correctly identified Kitty Shankwitz, a DPS retiree who lives in Prescott and works part-time as an office coordinator at District 12, as the girl who was dodging traffic outside of the Phoenix and Tucson areas. Debbie James, an evidence custodian at Phoenix Property and Evidence, was awarded the AHPA shirt by virtue of a drawing.

Racial profiling ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

long as reasonably necessary to accomplish the purpose of the stop. Motorists may not be detained only for the purpose of waiting for a drug-sniffing canine unless there is reasonable suspicion or probable cause of criminal activity.

- Officers must identify themselves by name and, upon request, provide rank, badge number and a supervisor's name.

- Written consent forms, printed in English and Spanish, will be used when a search is requested during a traffic stop. The officer will not have the discretion to decline to use a written consent form.

- Procedures and policies will be developed for routine video and audio taping of traffic stops.

- New forms will be designed for traffic stops in order to collect and tabulate data on the nature, duration and grounds for contacts between officers and motorists. Gender and ethnicity will be noted.

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

DIGEST

P.O. Box 6638

Phoenix, AZ 85005

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Down the Highways

April 1960

Test for rabies are being conducted on a coyote shot to death by Patrolman Delbert Stelwert near Tubac April 7. The coyote made several lunges at Stelwert's car and at several other vehicles before the patrolman shot and killed it.

Smokey the Bear? A Texas Ranger? Or a taxi driver?

"Which hat would you like your Arizona Highway Patrolmen to resemble?" the Phoenix Gazette asks in an April 27 feature story.

Col. Lloyd Robertson announced that the Arizona Highway Patrol was testing all three to decide which to adopt. The taxi driver hat has been in use. Photos show Lt. Harley A. Thompson wearing the Smokey hat, Sgt. B.D. Hanger wearing the western-type hat and Patrolman Walt Gregory in the taxi cap.

April 1965

Delivery of 301 new Arizona Highway Patrol cars was expected to start April 15. The Patrol ordered 301 new patrol cars - 221 Plymouths and 80 Fords. Delivery was expected to continue through June.

April 1970

DPS Patrolman John Hale stopped a suspicious vehicle approaching Wickenburg and intercepted the largest load of marijuana in Arizona history - some 200 pounds. The

marijuana was concealed in a number of one-kilogram (2.2 pound) packages. The precedent-setting case was used as an example in lectures at the FBI academy in Quantico, Va.

April 1975

Two DPS officers were eating lunch at a Prescott restaurant when a passerby reported that someone was slashing the tires on their brand new patrol car. The officers quickly discovered that the report was true.

The suspect they booked for malicious mischief was a 74-year-old man.

April 1985

DPS Director Ralph Milstead promoted Major David St. John and James Chilcoat to lieutenant colonels April 21. With the promotion, St. John became chief of the Criminal Justice Support Bureau while Chilcoat, promoted in place, remained commander of the Government Liaison Division.

After stopping a motorist for weaving on a Phoenix freeway, DPS Officer Rudy Buck asked the male DUI suspect to exit the vehicle for the purpose of conducting a field sobriety test. When Buck asked the motorist to touch his nose with a finger that mid-April afternoon, the motorist promptly touched his forehead before grabbing a road sign to maintain his balance.

Buck then took the motorist to D-5 head-

quarters for testing where the suspect blew a .43 on the Breathalyzer. At that level, Buck said the man should at least have been unconscious, if not dead. When the man was released to a friend, "He walked out without any help," Buck said.

April 1990

One of the top shooters in departmental history, who fortunately never was involved in an on-duty shooting incident, called it quits after 20 years with the Department.

But that is not to say that Frank Glenn wasn't fully prepared to fire in self-defense. Glenn, 46, a DPS armorer who spent a considerable part of his DPS career winning gold medals for marksmanship and teaching other officers how to shoot, retired from DPS April 30.

April 1995

A series of 50-mph wind gusts, which sent plumes of dust billowing across I-10 reducing visibility to zero, was blamed for causing the most deadly storm-related accident in state history.

Ten people, including six from one family, were killed the afternoon of April 9 during a series of four traffic crashes which occurred within seconds of each other. The number killed in the I-10 accident between San Simon and Bowie surpassed the storm-related record of eight fatalities set on two separate occasions.